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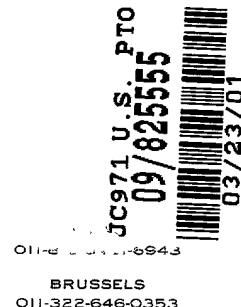
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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10, in an envelope addressed to: BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 23, 2001. Express Mail Label No.: EL589697456US.

Signed: Mary A. McCauley

Mary A. McCauley

March 23, 2001

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 7781.0028-00

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 22,852

**Box PATENT APPLICATION**  
**Assistant Commissioner for Patents**  
**Washington, DC 20231**

New U.S. Patent Application

Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR BATCH PROCESSING

Inventors: Norbert Trautmann, et al.

Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

1. Application - 39 pages, including 2 independent claims and 44 claims total.
2. Drawings - 2 sheets of drawings (Figures 1-2).

Please address all correspondence with respect to this application to:

Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow,  
Garrett & Dunner, L.L.P.  
1300 I Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3315

This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f).  
Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the Declaration.

Please accord this application an application number and filing date.

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

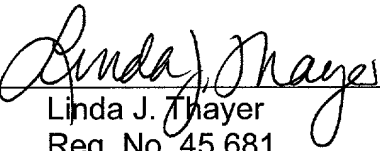
March 23, 2001

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due and any other fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 during the pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:   
Linda J. Thayer  
Reg. No. 45,681